



**American Orthotic &  
Prosthetic Association**

# AOPA in Advance

Breaking News for O&P Professionals

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### Newsletter Feedback

We invite your comments and questions. Please contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## O&P NEWS

### An Update on National and State Health Care Reform and Why the 2011 Policy Forum Matters to You!

**AOPA in Advance** has reported on one of the most pressing issues facing O&P during the past year: the efforts in California, Arizona, and, most recently, Nevada, to cut Medicaid funding to O&P patients. While there has been some [good news in Nevada](#) because the new Governor reversed the former Governor's plan to cut O&P Medicaid benefits for those over 21 years of age. O&P benefits were among the few Medicaid benefits spared. Why the plan for O&P cuts was withdrawn, we may never be certain, but early, aggressive efforts by Nevada practitioners, coupled with early advertising and public relations intervention by **AOPA** couldn't have hurt. While we want to believe O&P services under Medicaid in Nevada are now secure, the truth is that the fight is far from over. And as **AOPA** is sending this newsletter today it is monitoring the situation in New Jersey as that state's Governor has just announced plans [to cut Medicaid spending by \\$300 million by transferring everyone on the program into a managed care plan.](#)

On the national level, last year's health care reform bill is currently undergoing the process of being turned from statute to regulation and if O&P doesn't win the battle to be part of the "essential health benefits package" in regulations being formulated later this year at the federal level, **AOPA** members can all expect to see O&P be dropped from major payer plans. A New Jersey Congressman, Rob Andrews has written Secretary Sebelius to underscore how critical it is that these HHS regulations include O&P. The Policy Forum will provide a perfect opportunity to recruit other members of Congress needed for this fight.

These are state and national challenges for O&P that you can influence. You must get involved and one vital way to do it will be through attending the 2011 Policy Forum.

The 2011 **AOPA** Policy Forum will be held Monday, April 11 through Tuesday, April 12, 2011 in Washington D.C. Members will be briefed on state and national legislative activities and be prepared for face-to-face meetings with their congressional representatives. Everyone in the O&P field, regardless of specialization has a stake in how the regulations being written by HHS (on essential health benefits) and Treasury (about the 2.3 percent medical device excise tax) Departments as well as how any new laws affecting healthcare play out in this very uncertain environment.

Your Congressman or Senator will value your input as a constituent and the specific contribution you make as member of the O&P community to the restoration of mobility and quality of life to your patients. The Forum is designed to help everyone understand the issues and the politics which pose challenges to O&P patient care and equip everyone to have face-to-face conversations with Congressional staff and Members about parity's importance to our patients; how our O&P Medicare Improvement Act improves patient care and reduces fraud and abuse; and the need for continued research on cost effectiveness of treatment programs. Last year **AOPA** secured more than 230 meetings with Representatives and Senators.

The tentative schedule for the 2011 Policy Forum is as follows:

#### *Monday, April 11*

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Registration Open
1:00 - 5:00 PM	Policy Forum General Sessions
5:30 PM	Fundraiser/Reception
6:30 PM	Reception and Dinner

#### *Tuesday, April 12*

7:30 AM	Breakfast and General Session
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8:00 AM Fundraiser Breakfast  
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Hill Visits

The cost of registration is \$125 per person and **AOPA** has secured a room rate of \$249 per night at the [L'Enfant Plaza Hotel](#), a five minute metro ride to Capitol Hill.

[Click here to register for the Policy Forum.](#)

[Click here to reserve your room at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel](#) or call the hotel at (800) 635-5065.

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## AOPA Reps Meet with IRS and Treasury Officials Regarding Potential Applicability of 2.3% Medical Device Tax to O&P Products

**Summary of provision:** The health care reform bill included a 2.3 percent tax on medical devices that will begin in 2013. Exempted from that tax were eyeglasses, contact lenses, hearing aids and "any other medical device determined by the Secretary to be of a type which is generally purchased by the general public at retail for individual use." It also appears that a tax on 'component parts' may be deferred for collection later with a tax being leveled on the 'finished device.'

**Meeting:** On Thursday afternoon, February 10, **AOPA** representatives met with officials from the IRS and the Treasury Department who have been assigned the responsibility for writing the rules on how this new tax will be applied. **AOPA** was represented at the meeting by two **AOPA** members--Charles Dankmeyer, CPO, who operates an O&P patient care facility in Linthicum, Maryland, and Scott Schneider from Otto Bock presented the manufacturer perspective-as well as **AOPA** Executive Director, Tom Fise, and both Stephanie Kennan and Carolyn Smith, from **AOPA's** lobbying firm, Alston & Bird. **AOPA** presented an overview of orthotics and prosthetics, the various categories of devices from "off-the-shelf" up to custom fabricated, and, beginning with the prescription, how these devices reach the patient.

Orthotics and prosthetics is in a unique position, walking a very delicate balance. The component exemption might seem attractive to some, but Treasury does not see that as an elimination of the excise tax, but rather as deferring the tax for collection farther down the distribution line, meaning Treasury would want to collect the tax from patient care facilities, which, in light of mark-ups, would mean that more total tax would be collected. Since this is essentially seen as a tax on manufacturers, if Treasury did this, it might have ramifications with FDA, which both in its regulations and practice have excluded patient care facilities from being treated as manufacturers.

By contrast, the stronger position on behalf of O&P appears to be qualifying under the retail exemption from the tax, which **AOPA** has argued means that no tax should be collected at either the manufacturer or patient care facility level. A key purpose of **AOPA's** meeting with the Treasury Department was to explain why these items should be exempted. The examples cited in the law of items that qualify for this retail exemption are contact lenses, eyeglasses and hearing aids. The crux of the argument is that, like the items already exempted (eye glasses, contact lenses and hearing aids), orthotics and prosthetics are items purchased by the general public when someone is in need of this type of assistive device. The parallels include that all of these devices are prepared in conformance to a prescription to meet the unique needs of a single patient.

**AOPA** reps met with IRS and Treasury officials for 90 minutes. In addition to covering the items mentioned here, the meeting also set the stage for **AOPA** to submit written comments to the agency in advance of a March 4 deadline announced in Treasury's invitation to those interested in the medical device excise tax to provide information on their industry, products and patients.

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## CMS Announces New Regulations on Enrollment

Recently, CMS announced new enrollment regulations that are meant to curb fraud, abuse and waste in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The changes are extensive and include enhanced requirements, such as fingerprinting and background checks, for providers considered as "high risk." All new DMEPOS providers enrolling in Medicare and/or Medicaid, as well as any existing providers opening new branches, will be considered as "high risk" starting on March 25, 2011. In addition, CMS will be imposing an application fee of \$500 per enrollment application submitted and now has the right to place payment and enrollment moratoriums under certain situations.

[Click here to find a summary of these new rules.](#)

Questions? Contact Kathy Dodson at [kdodson@AOPAnet.org](mailto:kdodson@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0810.

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## Jurisdiction D DME MAC Announces Pre-Payment Audits for Diabetic Shoes and Inserts

Noridian Administrative Services (NAS), the Jurisdiction D DME MAC, recently announced that they will be performing widespread pre-payment probe audits of claims for off the shelf diabetic shoes (A5500) and heat moldable, direct formed diabetic inserts (A5512).

According to the NAS website, these codes have been selected for pre-payment review as a result of the analysis of the results from recent CERT audits performed on claims for these codes. Providers who are selected for pre-payment review will receive a request for additional documentation to support Medicare payment for claims for A5500 and A5512. Failure to comply with a request for additional documentation will result in automatic claim denial.

**AOPA** members should be mindful of the recently revised Therapeutic Shoe LCD and Policy Article that became effective for claims with a date of service on or after February 4, 2011. NAS will require full compliance with the additional documentation requirements outlined in the new policy, including in person visits with both the certifying and prescribing physician within 6 months prior to the delivery of the shoes and inserts.

[Click here to read the NAS pre-payment probe review announcement.](#)

[Click here to read the current Jurisdiction D LCD for therapeutic shoes.](#)

[Click here to read the current Jurisdiction D Policy Article for therapeutic shoes.](#)

Questions? Contact Devon Bernard at [dbernard@AOPAnet.org](mailto:dbernard@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0854, or Joe McTernan at [jmcternan@AOPAnet.org](mailto:jmcternan@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0811.

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## HIPAA 5010: Transition Checklist

Beginning January 1, 2012, all HIPAA covered entities (suppliers, health plans, clearinghouses, billing services, etc.) will be required to use the new HIPAA 5010 format for all HIPAA covered electronic transactions (claims submissions, remittance notices, claim status requests, etc.). If you do not make the switch to the HIPAA 5010 format before January 1, 2012, you will experience delays in processing your claims with both Medicare and private payers, as the current 4010 format will not be accepted after January 1, 2012.

If you have not already done so, be sure to contact your software vendor and/or clearinghouse to

determine what you must do to prepare for the transition and when you may begin testing with the new 5010 format. To help you in the transition, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has created a transition checklist and a readiness assessment tool.

[Click here to access the transition checklist.](#)

[Click here to access the readiness assessment tool.](#)

Questions? Contact Devon Bernard at [dbernard@AOPAnet.org](mailto:dbernard@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0854, or Joe McTernan at [jmcternan@AOPAnet.org](mailto:jmcternan@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0811.

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## O&P PAC Corner

The O&P PAC Corner provides updates on the activities of the O&P PAC, including the names of individuals who have made recent donations to the O&P PAC and the names of candidates the O&P PAC has supported.

The O&P PAC recently made a donation to the following members of Congress:

- Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Senior Member of Senate Committee on Finance; Member of Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, Committee on the Judiciary, the Joint Committee on Taxation; Member of the Special Committee on Aging
- Senator Ben Nelson (D-NB), Member: Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Rules & Administration Committees
- Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Chairwoman: Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry; Member of the Budget Committee, the Energy & Natural Resources Committee, and the Finance Committee

The purpose of the O&P PAC is to advocate for legislative or political interests at the federal level, which have an impact on the orthotic and prosthetic community. The O&P PAC achieves this goal by working closely with members of the House and Senate to educate them about the issues, and help elect those individuals who support the orthotic and prosthetic community.

In order to participate in the O&P PAC, federal law mandates that you must first sign an authorization form. [Click here to view and sign an O&P PAC authorization form.](#)

Questions? Contact Devon Bernard at [dbernard@AOPAnet.org](mailto:dbernard@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0854, or Joe McTernan at [jmcternan@AOPAnet.org](mailto:jmcternan@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0811.

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## Helping Tell the Story - Capitol Connection

**AOPA's** advocacy effort also benefits from the support members provide Capitol Connection. It's important to distinguish between the O&P PAC (which makes contributions to political campaigns) and Capitol Connection which provides educational support through special studies to support **AOPA** legislative and regulatory positions; publications to build a well-informed team of **AOPA** members; and other extraordinary projects that advance **AOPA** government relations agenda. The O&P PAC may only receive individual contributions - corporate check and credit card contributions are prohibited by law. Conversely - Capitol Connection can accept both personal and corporate funds but may not contribute to a Federal political campaign.

Here are the generous supporters of Capitol Connection since the first of the year:

- Adaptive Prosthetics & Orthotics LLC; • Advanced Orthopedic Designs; • Advanced Prosthetic

Center LLC; • Allard USA Inc.; • Amarillo Artificial Limb and Brace; • Augusta Orthotics & Prosthetics; • Baker O&P Enterprises Inc.; • Bayou Orthotic & Prosthetic Center, LLC; • Biomedical Designs Inc.; • BioTech Limb and Brace LLC; • Boston Artificial Limb Co. Inc.; • C.F.I. Prosthetics & Orthotics; • Carolina Prosthetics & Orthotics Inc.; • Choice Limb & Brace Inc.; • D&J Medical; • DJO; • Dynamic Orthopedic Lab; • Endolite; • Farrell Prosthetics; • Fenner Inc. dba Specialty Prosthetics & Orthotics of Tulsa; • International Prosthetics & Orthotics; • J.F. Rowley Prosthetics & Orthotics Laboratory Inc.; • Jack Gold Surgical Appl. Inc.; • KISS Technologies LLC; • Lerman & Son, Orthotics & Prosthetics Inc.; • Louisville Prosthetics; • Maryland Orthotics & Prosthetics Co. Inc.; • Midlands Prosthetics & Orthotics; • Minnesota Prosthetics & Orthotics; • North Coast Orthotics & Prosthetics; • North Shore Orthotics Prosthetics Ltd.; • Northern Care Inc.; • Ortho Pro Associates Inc.; • Orthologix LLC; • P.O.A. Prosthetic & Orthotic Associates; • Procure Orthotics & Prosthetics Inc.; • Prosthetic Innovations; • R. J. Rosenberg Orthopedic Lab Inc.; • Riverview Orthotics & Prosthetics; • Rockford Orthopedic Appliance; • Rogerson Orthopedic Appliances Inc.; • Snell Prosthetic & Orthotic Laboratory; • Snell's Limbs & Braces Inc.; • Stubbs Prosthetics & Orthotics Inc.; • Tillges Certified Orthotic Prosthetic Inc.; and • WVA Orthotic & Prosthetic Center Inc.

A very special thank you to all of these companies who make possible Capitol Connection's support of **AOPA's** government relations program and legislative agenda.

Questions? Contact Devon Bernard at [dbernard@AOPAnet.org](mailto:dbernard@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0854, or Joe McTernan at [jmcternan@AOPAnet.org](mailto:jmcternan@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0811.

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## Dates for ALL AOPA Advanced Coding and Billing Seminars 2011 Announced

Don't miss the opportunity to experience two days of valuable O&P coding and billing information from **AOPA** experts. The Advanced Coding and Billing Seminars include breakout sessions for practitioners and administrators that will focus on each group's specific interests and educational needs.

The first **AOPA** Advanced Coding and Billing Seminar of 2011 will be held at the Mirage Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada on May 19-20, 2011. **AOPA** will host the second seminar in San Antonio, Texas, June 15- 16 at the Marriott River Center (room rate of \$159 per night) and the third and final seminar of 2011 in Baltimore, Maryland, October 24-25 at the Sheraton Inner Harbor (room rate of \$159 per night).

Early bird registration for the Las Vegas seminar is now open and attendees who register prior to April 20, 2011 will receive a \$25 discount off the regular tuition price. **AOPA** has secured a very attractive room rate of \$125 per night at the Mirage.

### What You Will Learn

- How to use Medical Policies to improve your reimbursement
- Hints on what, when, and how to document your interaction with patients
- How to develop and execute a successful compliance plan
- How to properly perform self audits of your charts and what to do when you discover problems

### In the breakout session Practitioners will cover:

- General Coding Principles
- "Hands on" coding of specific devices
- Proper coding for repairs and adjustments
- Reimbursement for unlisted codes
- Codes that are mutually exclusive and should not be billed together

### In the breakout session Administrators will cover:

- Updated Quality and Supplier Standards

Strategies for handling appeals and denials

- Strategies for handling appeals and denials
- How to handle unique billing situations
- Documentation Requirements
- Medicare as Secondary Payer

[Click here to register for the May 19-20 AOPA Advanced Coding and Billing Seminar.](#)

Questions? Contact Ann Davis at [adavis@AOPAnet.org](mailto:adavis@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0876.

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## March 9 Audio Conference "Enhance Your Claims Success, Two Letters at a Time"

Join us for the next **AOPA**iversity Audio Conference on March 9. The topic for the March Audio Conference is "Enhance Your Claims Success, Two Letters at a Time." In this conference you will learn:

- What modifiers to use with an ABN
- How to use modifiers to bill for upgraded/deluxe features What the KX modifier really means
- Uncommon modifiers
- How to use modifiers correctly

These are just a few of the issues that will be presented during the Audio Conference scheduled for March 9, 2011 at 1:00 pm EST. Don't miss this opportunity to improve your understanding of this very important medical policy.

The conference will begin at 1:00 PM (EST). Bring your questions as there will be an interactive question and answer period following the speaker's remarks. The cost to participate is just \$99 per line for members (\$199 for nonmembers) and any number of listeners may participate on a given line. Those seeking continuing education credit must return the provided quiz within 30 days and score at least 80 percent.

[Click here to register.](#)

Questions? Contact Ann Davis at [adavis@AOPAnet.org](mailto:adavis@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0876.

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## Save the Date: AOPA's 94th National Assembly at the Mirage in Las Vegas - Room Rates of \$135 a Night!

Mark your calendars now for the American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association's 94<sup>th</sup> National Assembly! If you are involved in O&P research or the delivery of O&P care and services-don't miss this chance to join your colleagues in Las Vegas, NV, at the country's largest and most prestigious O&P meeting. The comprehensive programming and energized atmosphere of the Scientific Sessions provides cutting-edge education and information for all members of the O&P community-orthotists, prosthetists, pedorthists, physicians, scientists, researchers, technicians, managers, business owners, office staff, nurses, nurse practitioners, podiatrists, and other health care professionals. And you won't want to miss the business management sessions headlined by the Same E. Hamontree, CP, Award-winning lecture.

**AOPA** has secured a room rate of \$135 per night for the 2011 National Assembly. That's right, \$135: it's not an optical illusion - it's the Mirage room rate for this year's assembly. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy AAA Four Diamond luxury for the fantastic room rate of only \$135 per night. If

that's not enough for you to mark your calendar now, here are more reasons to put the 2011 **AOPA**

That's not enough for you to mark your calendar now- there are more reasons to put the 2011 **AOPA** National Assembly on your To-Do list:

- Unprecedented Business Education featuring experts in Health Care Reform, Documentation, O&P Business Management, Ethics, Different Business Models and more;
- New multi-discipline panels on subjects such as Cerebral Palsy, Stroke Management and Wound Care;
- Experience the country's largest trade show for orthotics, prosthetics and pedorthics;
- Earn over 34 Continuing Education (CE) Credits;
- A premier learning experience with the best speakers from around the world;
- Extensive Symposium on treating spinal trauma, featuring live demonstrations;
- Learn how to effectively use an assistant in your practice;
- New round table discussions;
- Programs to help you prepare for tomorrow featuring topics such as Osseo integration, Robotics and Material Science.
- Fabulous shopping, entertainment, championship golf and unparalleled people watching - all of this right in the heart of the Las Vegas Strip!

Science, Business, Fantastic Networking Opportunities and an incredible \$135 per night room rate at the Mirage Resort, September 19-22, 2011. To reserve your room today call (800) 627-6667 or (702) 791-7111 and mention the AOPA registration code "AOPMB."

Questions? Contact Ann Davis at [adavis@AOPAnet.org](mailto:adavis@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0876.

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## O&P RESOURCES FROM AOPA

### 2011 QuickCoders Now Available!

The latest edition of **AOPA's** QuickCoder has arrived. **AOPA's** redesigned-for-2011 QuickCoders provide a speedy reference to the HCPCS orthotic, shoe and prosthetic codes and modifiers. These laminated cards are durable, long-lasting, easy-to-read and convenient to store.

The QuickCoders are available for a price of \$30 each for **AOPA** members and \$80 each for non-members.

Questions? Contact Ann Davis at [adavis@AOPAnet.org](mailto:adavis@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0876.

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## Check Out the AOPA Job Board for New Opportunities in O&P

If you need a position filled at your business or are interested in looking at other job possibilities within the O&P field, check out the [AOPA Online Job Board](#). The online job board sports a freshly updated look and an easy-to-navigate profile creation system.

In the past month the Job Board has been viewed over 8,000 times by more than 1,500 unique users. If you want people to find out about a job opening at your facility or are interested in posting your resume for employers to view for potential openings, visit the [AOPA Online Job Board](#) today.

And remember, if you advertise on the Online Job Board and decide to also advertise in the O&P

And remember, if you advertise on the Online Job Board and decide to also advertise in the *O&P Almanac*, then you'll receive a 5 percent discount on the cost of advertising in the *Almanac* and on the Job Board.

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## The 2011 Audio Conference Series from AOPA

Numerous offices have benefited from their participation in **AOPA's** Medicare Audio Conferences. These one hour sessions come to you in the comfort of your office on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm Eastern. This series provides an outstanding opportunity for you and your staff to stay abreast of the latest hot topics in O&P, as well as gain clarification and ask questions on topics that you may not understand as fully as you would like to.

Seminars are still priced at just \$99 per line for members (\$199 for non-members). Buy the series and get two free; members pay just \$990 and non-members pay \$1990. If you purchase all the conferences, all conferences from months prior to your purchase of the set will be sent to you as CDs.

These convenient one hour telephone seminars are designed to fit easily into your busy schedule. Any practitioners needing credit can get 1.5 per audio conference by returning the provided quiz within 30 days and scoring at least 80%. Billing staff and others who don't need credit can nonetheless gain information they will use right away. The topics for 2010 are:

- January 12: How to Meet the New Medicare Supplier Standards (Available on CD)
- Feb. 9: Using the Lower Limb Medical Policy to Your Advantage (Available on CD)
- March 9: Enhance Your Claims Success, Two Letters at a Time
- April 13: Improving Clinical Documentation
- May 11: Which Box to Check? The Negative Effect of the 855S on Reimbursement
- June 8: Preventing Audit Disasters
- July 13: Don't Rile the OSHA Police
- August 10: How to Get Paid for Miscellaneous and Repair Codes
- September 14: Don't Run Afoul of the KO Rules
- October 12: Developing Your Medicare Billing Compliance Plan
- November 9: Happy Holidays: Kickbacks and Gifts in O&P
- December 14: Are You Ready for the New Year? 2012 New Codes and Policies

[Click here to register for any 2011 Audio Conference.](#)

If you miss an audio conference, it will be available on CD after the fact. Cost is the same as if you participate live (\$99/\$199). We hope you'll be able to join us for this year's series.

Questions? Contact Ann Davis at [adavis@AOPAnet.org](mailto:adavis@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0876.

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## O&P INSIDER'S TRACK

*The Only Up-to-the Minute O&P Newsline*

### In Memoriam

**AOPA** *in Advance* received the following remembrance:

**Harry J. Lawall Jr.**, "Bud", of Newtown died on Monday, December 20, 2010, at St. Mary Medical Center, Langhorne. He was 55. He was the beloved husband of Donna M. Schneider Lawall for 33 years.

Born in Philadelphia, he was the son of Rosemary Malone Lawall of Holland and the late Harry Lawall Sr. Bud was a resident of Newtown for 20 years and formerly lived in Holland. He graduated from Holy Ghost Preparatory School, Class of 1972 and received his bachelor degree in 1976 from New York University. In 1977, along with his father, he started and established an orthotic prosthetic business, [Harry J. Lawall & Son](#), located in Philadelphia. In his leisure time, he enjoyed boating and golfing especially at the shore. Being family oriented, he always enjoyed the special times spent with his children and grandchildren. He will be sadly missed as a loving husband, father, son, brother, "Pop" and friend.

In addition to his loving wife and mother, he is survived by his four children, Andrea M. Roque and her husband, Daniel, of New York, NY, Susan T. Esposito and her husband, Justin, of Philadelphia, PA, Harry J. Lawall III and Stephanie M. Lawall, both of Newtown, his seven brothers, Daniel Lawall and his wife, Josephine, of Warwick, NY, Ken Lawall and his wife, Joann, of Newtown, Francis Lawall and his wife, Anna, of Philadelphia, Wayne Lawall and his wife, Alice, of Langhorne, John Lawall and his wife, Ellen, of Newtown, David Lawall and his wife, Catherine, of Newtown, Chris Lawall and his wife, Megan, of Hummelstown, PA and his sister, Denise Lucas and her husband, Craig, of Feasterville. He is also survived by his two loving grandchildren, Rosemary C. and Daniel P. Roque.

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## People in the News

[Amputee & Prosthetic Center](#) and [Limbs of Love](#) celebrated Valentine's Day with 54 year old amputee **Debbie Rivera**, who lost her right leg to diabetes in 2009. Ms. Rivera received a donated prosthetic device made possible as a result of the efforts of both organizations.

[Otto Bock](#) announced the promotion of **Mark Edwards** to the position of Professional and Clinical Services Director.

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## Businesses in the News

The [Amputee Coalition](#) of America announced the [re-launching of its brand](#), including a new logo, and that it will now be recognized as simply the [Amputee Coalition](#). Additionally, the Amputee Coalition announced that the [American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics, & Pedorthics, Inc.](#) (ABC) the [Board of Certification/Accreditation, International](#) (BOC) as a Cobble Stone Sponsors of the Amputee Coalition's Paddy Rossbach Youth Camp for 2011.

The [American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics, & Pedorthics, Inc.](#) (ABC) announced the release the 2010 *Practice Analysis of ABC Credentialed Orthotic Fitters*. ABC's Practice Analysis Task Force, ABC Executive Director, **Catherine Carter**, and Director of Clinical Resources, **Stephen B. Fletcher, CPO, LPO** worked with Professional Examination Services to create and implement a practice analysis of orthotic fitters.

The [Board of Certification/Accreditation, International](#) (BOC) announced that Jan Paul Miller, MEd, MA, has joined The Board of Certification/Accreditation (BOC), International as its new certification director.

[Northern Prosthetics and Orthopedic Inc.](#) announced that it is celebrating its 50th year in business, having served the Northern Illinois/Southern Wisconsin area since 1961.

[OPAF & The First Clinics](#) announced the events they will host during the AAOP meeting March in Orlando Florida

- [The Thranhardt Golf Classic](#), Wednesday, March 16 at Reunion Resort & Golf Club in Reunion, Florida.;
- On Thursday evening, March 17<sup>th</sup>, OPAF and oandp.com will host a "Luck of the Irish!" celebration in the Martinique Ballroom from 7-10 PM;
- During the Academy weekend **Prosthetic & Orthotic Associates** (POA) will be hosting two First Clinics. On Friday evening, First Volley Adaptive Tennis will be held on the tennis courts at Caribe Royale. On Saturday afternoon POA will host a First Swing/Learn to Golf Clinic at Grand Cypress Golf Resort Golf Academy.

For more information on any of these events or to sign up, please contact the OPAF office at (319) 235-4318 or email [rlb@opfund.org](mailto:rlb@opfund.org).

[Otto Bock HealthCare Canada](#) has been selected to receive the Corporate Award from the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons.

[Prosthetic Innovations, LLC](#), announced their selection by [Össur](#) as being one of five certified facilities in the country for the new Power Knee.

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## Send Us Your News!

The next **AOPA** *in Advance* will arrive in your inbox on March 8. So if you have a new employee or a new office, tell us! Share your news with the over 15,000 readers of the *O&P Almanac* and **AOPA** *In Advance* newsletter. Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org)

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